

MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP

Success Stories from the Field

Fairchild Semiconductors

Northeastern Pennsylvania Industrial Resource Center

NEPIRC Helps Client Receive Customized Training

Client Profile:

Fairchild Semiconductor, located in Mountaintop, Pennsylvania, is the leading global supplier of high performance semiconductor products in the power, interface, analog, mixed signal, logic, optoelectronic, and configurable products markets. As the industry's first multi-market company, Fairchild has a history of leading-edge innovation. This tradition continues through a singular focus on creatively managing, converting, minimizing and distributing power -- one of the most important defining characteristics of a semiconductor company in the early 21st century. Fairchild employs 300 people.

Situation:

Fairchild purchased the latest line of Allen Bradley SLC500 PLC equipment and was in need of customized Advanced PLC training. The company also needed assistance in developing shop training manuals, documenting machine set-up routines and creating customized textbooks for use during future training programs. They needed all training to be done on-site and with minimal disruption of their usual workday. Fairchild turned to the Northeastern Pennsylvania Industrial Resource Center (NEPIRC), a NIST MEP network affiliate, to help them identify a training provider that was willing to develop a customized training program for the company, along with supporting documents, manuals, visual aids and textbooks.

Solution:

NEPIRC identified a qualified instructor and completely managed the training project for Fairchild. NEPIRC and the instructor partnered to provide a 120-hour Advanced PLC training course to 32 Fairchild employees. NEPIRC also provided follow-on support that allowed Fairchild to build documents that will enable the company to perform future training in-house, without continued reliance upon an external trainer. This innovative Train the Trainer approach saved the company an estimated \$15,000 each year in external consulting and training costs, allowing Fairchild to pursue other training opportunities and stay on the cutting edge of semiconductor technology.

Results:

- * Received on-site Advanced PLC training for 32 employees.
- * Enabled company to perform its own in-house training.
- * Saved \$15,000 per year in external consulting and training costs.

Testimonial:

"All employees who participated in this project were extremely satisfied. Coordinating this training program with the NEPIRC Project Manager, the outside consultant and Fairchild Semiconductor was flawless."

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Robert Turick, Training Coordinator